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Lepton Polarization in the Decays

$B \rightarrow X_s \mu^+ \mu^-$ and $B \rightarrow X_s \tau^+ \tau^-$

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ABSTRACT

The effective Hamiltonian for the decay $b \rightarrow s l^+ l^-$ predicts a characteristic polarization for the final state lepton, which can serve as an important test of the underlying theory. The lepton polarization has, in addition to a longitudinal component P_L , two orthogonal components P_T and P_N , lying in and perpendicular to the decay plane which are proportional to m_l/m_b , and therefore significant for the $\tau^+ \tau^-$ channel. The normal polarization component P_N is a T -odd effect connected with the nonhermiticity of the effective Hamiltonian, arising mainly from $c\bar{c}$ intermediate states. We calculate all three polarization components for the decay $B \rightarrow X_s \tau^+ \tau^-$ as a function of the lepton pair mass, and find average values $\langle P_L \rangle_\tau = -0.37$, $\langle P_T \rangle_\tau = -0.63$, $\langle P_N \rangle_\tau = 0.03$. By comparison, the μ^- polarization is $\langle P_L \rangle_\mu = -0.77$, $\langle P_T \rangle_\mu = \langle P_N \rangle_\mu \approx 0$.

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I. INTRODUCTION

The decay $B \rightarrow X_s l^+l^-$ has received considerable attention as a potential testing ground for the effective Hamiltonian describing flavour-changing neutral current processes in B decay (see e.g. Ref. [1]). This Hamiltonian contains the one-loop effects of the electroweak interaction, which are sensitive to the top-quark mass [2–4]. In addition, there are important QCD corrections [5–8], which have recently been calculated in next-to-leading order [4, 9]. The inclusive distributions have been studied in [5, 10, 11], while the exclusive channels $B \rightarrow Kl^+l^-$ and $B \rightarrow K^*l^+l^-$ have been analysed in [3, 12]. Recently, attention has been drawn to the fact that the longitudinal polarization of the lepton, P_L , in $B \rightarrow X_s l^+l^-$ is an important observable, that may be especially accessible in the mode $B \rightarrow X_s \tau^+\tau^-$ [13]. The purpose of this paper is to show that complementary information is contained in the two orthogonal components of polarization (P_T , the component in the decay plane, and P_N , the component normal to the decay plane), both of which are proportional to m_l/m_b , and therefore significant for the $\tau^+\tau^-$ channel. The normal component P_N , in particular, is a novel feature, since it is a T -odd observable, that comes about because of the nonhermiticity of the effective Hamiltonian, associated with real $c\bar{c}$ intermediate states.

II. SHORT-DISTANCE CONTRIBUTIONS

The effective short-distance Hamiltonian for $b \rightarrow s l^+l^-$ [4, 5, 7, 8] leads to the QCD-corrected matrix element

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M} = & \frac{4G_F}{\sqrt{2}} V_{tb} V_{ts}^* \frac{\alpha}{4\pi} \left\{ c_9^{\text{eff}} (\bar{s}\gamma_\mu P_L b) \bar{l}\gamma^\mu l + c_{10} (\bar{s}\gamma_\mu P_L b) \bar{l}\gamma^\mu \gamma^5 l \right. \\ & \left. - 2 c_7^{\text{eff}} \bar{s} i\sigma_{\mu\nu} \frac{q^\nu}{q^2} (m_b P_R + m_s P_L) b \bar{l}\gamma^\mu l \right\}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.1)$$

where $P_{L,R} = \frac{1}{2}(1 \mp \gamma_5)$, and the analytic expressions for the Wilson coefficients are given in Ref. [4]. We use in our analysis the parameters given in the Appendix and

obtain in leading logarithmic approximation

$$c_7^{\text{eff}} = -0.315, \quad c_{10} = -4.642 , \quad (2.2)$$

and in next-to-leading order

$$\begin{aligned} c_9^{\text{eff}} &= c_9 \tilde{\eta}(\hat{s}) + g(\hat{m}_c, \hat{s}) (3c_1 + c_2 + 3c_3 + c_4 + 3c_5 + c_6) - \frac{1}{2}g(\hat{m}_s, \hat{s}) (c_3 + 3c_4) \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2}g(\hat{m}_b, \hat{s}) (4c_3 + 4c_4 + 3c_5 + c_6) + \frac{2}{9}(3c_3 + c_4 + 3c_5 + c_6) , \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} (3c_1 + c_2 + 3c_3 + c_4 + 3c_5 + c_6) &= 0.359 , \\ (4c_3 + 4c_4 + 3c_5 + c_6) &= -6.749 \times 10^{-2} , \\ (3c_3 + c_4 + 3c_5 + c_6) &= -1.558 \times 10^{-3} , \\ (c_3 + 3c_4) &= -6.594 \times 10^{-2} , \\ c_9 \tilde{\eta}(\hat{s}) &= 4.227 + 0.124 \omega(\hat{s}) , \end{aligned} \quad (2.4)$$

where we have introduced the notation $\hat{s} = q^2/m_b^2$, $\hat{m}_i = m_i/m_b$. The function $\omega(\hat{s})$ represents the one-gluon correction¹ to the matrix element of the operator \mathcal{O}_9 , while $g(\hat{m}_i, \hat{s})$ arises from the one-loop contributions of the four-quark operators \mathcal{O}_1 and \mathcal{O}_2 , and is given by

$$\begin{aligned} g(\hat{m}_i, \hat{s}) &= -\frac{8}{9} \ln(\hat{m}_i) + \frac{8}{27} + \frac{4}{9}y_i - \frac{2}{9}(2+y_i)\sqrt{|1-y_i|} \\ &\quad \times \left\{ \Theta(1-y_i)(\ln\left(\frac{1+\sqrt{1-y_i}}{1-\sqrt{1-y_i}}\right) - i\pi) + \Theta(y_i-1)2\arctan\frac{1}{\sqrt{y_i-1}} \right\} , \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

where $y_i \equiv 4\hat{m}_i^2/\hat{s}$.

¹See Refs. [4] and [9]. Here we neglect corrections due to a nonzero lepton mass. This will be discussed in a further publication.

III. LONG-DISTANCE CONTRIBUTIONS

In addition to the short-distance interaction defined by Eqs. (2.1)–(2.4) it is possible to take into account long-distance effects, associated with real $c\bar{c}$ resonances in the intermediate states, i.e. with the reaction chain $B \rightarrow X_s + V(c\bar{c}) \rightarrow X_s l^+l^-$. This can be accomplished in an approximate manner through the substitution [14]

$$g(\hat{m}_c, \hat{s}) \longrightarrow g(\hat{m}_c, \hat{s}) - \frac{3\pi}{\alpha^2} \sum_{V=J/\psi, \psi', \dots} \frac{\hat{m}_V \text{Br}(V \rightarrow l^+l^-) \hat{\Gamma}_{\text{total}}^V}{\hat{s} - \hat{m}_V^2 + i\hat{m}_V \hat{\Gamma}_{\text{total}}^V}, \quad (3.1)$$

where the properties of the vector mesons are summarized in Table I. There are six

TABLE I: Charmonium ($c\bar{c}$) masses and widths [15].

Meson	Mass (GeV)	$\text{Br}(V \rightarrow l^+l^-)$	Γ_{total} (MeV)
$J/\Psi(1S)$	3.097	6.0×10^{-2}	0.088
$\Psi(2S)$	3.686	8.3×10^{-3}	0.277
$\Psi(3770)$	3.770	1.1×10^{-5}	23.6
$\Psi(4040)$	4.040	1.4×10^{-5}	52
$\Psi(4160)$	4.159	1.0×10^{-5}	78
$\Psi(4415)$	4.415	1.1×10^{-5}	43

known resonances in the $c\bar{c}$ system that can contribute to the decay modes $B \rightarrow X_s e^+e^-$ and $B \rightarrow X_s \mu^+\mu^-$. Of these, all except the lowest $J/\psi(3097)$ contribute to the channel $B \rightarrow X_s \tau^+\tau^-$, for which the invariant mass of the lepton pair is $s > 4m_\tau^2$.²

²As noted by several authors [10, 16], the ansatz (3.1) for the resonance contribution implies an inclusive direct J/ψ production rate $\text{Br}(B \rightarrow J/\psi X_s) = 0.15\%$ that is ~ 5 times smaller than the measured J/ψ rate [17]. This is usually amended by the introduction of a phenomenological factor $\kappa_V \approx 2$ multiplying the Breit-Wigner function in (3.1). In the present paper, the only observable that is significantly affected by this change is the polarization component P_N , where we will show the results for both $\kappa_V = 1$ and $\kappa_V = 2.35$.

Alternatively, we can express $g(\hat{m}_i, \hat{s})$, Eq. (2.5), through the renormalized vacuum polarization $\Pi_{\text{had}}^\gamma(\hat{s})$, which is related to the experimentally measurable quantity $R_{\text{had}}(\hat{s}) \equiv \sigma_{\text{tot}}(e^+e^- \rightarrow \text{hadrons})/\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)$ via a dispersion relation [18], i.e.

$$\text{Re } \Pi_{\text{had}}^\gamma(\hat{s}) = \frac{\alpha \hat{s}}{3\pi} P \int_{4\hat{m}_\pi^2}^\infty \frac{R_{\text{had}}(\hat{s}')}{\hat{s}'(\hat{s}' - \hat{s})} d\hat{s}', \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Im } \Pi_{\text{had}}^\gamma(\hat{s}) = \frac{\alpha}{3} R_{\text{had}}(\hat{s}), \quad (3.2)$$

where P denotes the principal value. Using these relations, one finds for the $c\bar{c}$ contribution

$$\text{Im } g(\hat{m}_c, \hat{s}) = \frac{\pi}{3} R_{\text{had}}^{c\bar{c}}(\hat{s}), \quad (3.3)$$

and

$$\text{Re } g(\hat{m}_c, \hat{s}) = -\frac{8}{9} \ln \hat{m}_c - \frac{4}{9} + \frac{\hat{s}}{3} P \int_{4\hat{m}_D^2}^\infty \frac{R_{\text{had}}^{c\bar{c}}(\hat{s}')}{\hat{s}'(\hat{s}' - \hat{s})} d\hat{s}'. \quad (3.4)$$

The cross-section ratio $R_{\text{had}}^{c\bar{c}}$ may be written as

$$R_{\text{had}}^{c\bar{c}}(\hat{s}) = R_{\text{cont}}^{c\bar{c}}(\hat{s}) + R_{\text{res}}^{c\bar{c}}(\hat{s}), \quad (3.5)$$

where $R_{\text{cont}}^{c\bar{c}}$ and $R_{\text{res}}^{c\bar{c}}$ denote the contributions from the continuum and the narrow resonances, respectively. The latter is given by the Breit-Wigner formula

$$R_{\text{res}}^{c\bar{c}}(\hat{s}) = \sum_{V=J/\psi, \psi', \dots} \frac{9\hat{s}}{\alpha^2} \frac{\text{Br}(V \rightarrow l^+l^-) \hat{\Gamma}_{\text{total}}^V \hat{\Gamma}_{\text{had}}^V}{(\hat{s} - \hat{m}_V^2)^2 + \hat{m}_V^2 \hat{\Gamma}_{\text{total}}^{V^2}}, \quad (3.6)$$

whereas $R_{\text{cont}}^{c\bar{c}}$ can be determined using the experimental data. We use the parametrization of $R_{\text{cont}}^{c\bar{c}}$ given in [19] (see Appendix). In Fig. 1, the imaginary part of $g(\hat{m}_c, \hat{s})$, Eq. (2.5), is plotted and compared with $\text{Im } g(\hat{m}_c, \hat{s})$, Eq. (3.3). Our numerical results are based on Eqs. (3.3) and (3.4), with the parameter κ_V chosen equal to 2.35.

IV. RATE AND FORWARD-BACKWARD ASYMMETRY

Neglecting nonperturbative corrections [20], the decay width as a function of the invariant mass of the lepton pair ($q^2 \equiv m_{l+l-}^2$) is given by

$$\frac{d\Gamma}{d\hat{s}} = \frac{G_F^2 m_b^5}{192\pi^3} \frac{\alpha^2}{4\pi^2} |V_{tb} V_{ts}^*|^2 \lambda^{1/2}(1, \hat{s}, \hat{m}_s^2) \sqrt{1 - \frac{4\hat{m}_l^2}{\hat{s}}} \Delta , \quad (4.1)$$

where the factors λ and Δ are defined by

$$\lambda(a, b, c) = a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - 2(ab + bc + ac) , \quad (4.2)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta = & \left\{ \left(12 \operatorname{Re}(c_7^{\text{eff}} c_9^{\text{eff}}) F_1(\hat{s}, \hat{m}_s^2) + \frac{4}{\hat{s}} |c_7^{\text{eff}}|^2 F_2(\hat{s}, \hat{m}_s^2) \right) \left(1 + \frac{2\hat{m}_l^2}{\hat{s}} \right) \right. \\ & \left. + \left(|c_9^{\text{eff}}|^2 + |c_{10}|^2 \right) F_3(\hat{s}, \hat{m}_s^2, \hat{m}_l^2) + 6 \hat{m}_l^2 \left(|c_9^{\text{eff}}|^2 - |c_{10}|^2 \right) F_4(\hat{s}, \hat{m}_s^2) \right\} , \end{aligned} \quad (4.3)$$

with

$$F_1(\hat{s}, \hat{m}_s^2) = (1 - \hat{m}_s^2)^2 - \hat{s}(1 + \hat{m}_s^2) , \quad (4.4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} F_2(\hat{s}, \hat{m}_s^2) = & 2(1 + \hat{m}_s^2)(1 - \hat{m}_s^2)^2 - \hat{s}(1 + 14\hat{m}_s^2 + \hat{m}_s^4) - \hat{s}^2(1 + \hat{m}_s^2) , \\ & \quad (4.5) \end{aligned}$$

$$F_3(\hat{s}, \hat{m}_s^2, \hat{m}_l^2) = (1 - \hat{m}_s^2)^2 + \hat{s}(1 + \hat{m}_s^2) - 2\hat{s}^2 + \lambda(1, \hat{s}, \hat{m}_s^2) \frac{2\hat{m}_l^2}{\hat{s}} , \quad (4.6)$$

$$F_4(\hat{s}, \hat{m}_s^2) = 1 - \hat{s} + \hat{m}_s^2 . \quad (4.7)$$

If the lepton mass m_l is neglected, we recover the results of Ali *et al.* [10, 11]. If the strange-quark mass m_s is also neglected, we obtain the results of Grinstein *et al.* [5] and Buras and Münz [4]. Finally, for $m_l \neq 0$ but $m_s = 0$, we reproduce the result given by Hewett [13].

To complete the correspondence with previous results, we give here the forward-backward asymmetry of the lepton l^- in the $l^+ l^-$ centre-of-mass system:

$$A_{\text{FB}}(\hat{s}) = -3 \lambda^{1/2}(1, \hat{s}, \hat{m}_s^2) \sqrt{1 - \frac{4\hat{m}_l^2}{\hat{s}}} \frac{c_{10} [\hat{s} \operatorname{Re} c_9^{\text{eff}} + 2 c_7^{\text{eff}}(1 + \hat{m}_s^2)]}{\Delta} . \quad (4.8)$$

This agrees with Ref. [10] when m_l is neglected.

V. LEPTON-POLARIZATION

We now proceed to a discussion of the inclusive lepton polarization. We define three orthogonal unit vectors

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{e}_L &= \frac{\mathbf{p}_-}{|\mathbf{p}_-|}, \\ \mathbf{e}_N &= (\mathbf{p}_s \times \mathbf{p}_-)/|\mathbf{p}_s \times \mathbf{p}_-|, \\ \mathbf{e}_T &= \mathbf{e}_N \times \mathbf{e}_L,\end{aligned}\tag{5.1}$$

where \mathbf{p}_- and \mathbf{p}_s are three-momenta of the l^- and the s quark, respectively, in the c.m. frame of the l^+l^- system. The differential decay rate of $B \rightarrow X_s l^+l^-$ for any given spin direction \mathbf{n} of the lepton l^- , where \mathbf{n} is a unit vector in the l^- rest frame, may then be written as

$$\frac{d\Gamma(\mathbf{n})}{d\hat{s}} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{d\Gamma}{d\hat{s}} \right)_{\text{unpol}} \left[1 + (P_L \mathbf{e}_L + P_T \mathbf{e}_T + P_N \mathbf{e}_N) \cdot \mathbf{n} \right],\tag{5.2}$$

where P_L , P_T , P_N are functions of \hat{s} , which give the longitudinal, transverse and normal components of polarization. The polarization component P_i ($i = L, T, N$) is obtained by evaluating

$$P_i(\hat{s}) = \frac{d\Gamma(\mathbf{n} = \mathbf{e}_i)/d\hat{s} - d\Gamma(\mathbf{n} = -\mathbf{e}_i)/d\hat{s}}{d\Gamma(\mathbf{n} = \mathbf{e}_i)/d\hat{s} + d\Gamma(\mathbf{n} = -\mathbf{e}_i)/d\hat{s}}.\tag{5.3}$$

Our results for the polarization components P_L , P_T and P_N are as follows

$$\begin{aligned}P_L(\hat{s}) &= \sqrt{1 - \frac{4\hat{m}_l^2}{\hat{s}}} \left[12 c_7^{\text{eff}} c_{10} \left((1 - \hat{m}_s^2)^2 - \hat{s}(1 + \hat{m}_s^2) \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + 2 \text{Re} (c_9^{\text{eff}} c_{10}) \left((1 - \hat{m}_s^2)^2 + \hat{s}(1 + \hat{m}_s^2) - 2\hat{s}^2 \right) \right] / \Delta,\end{aligned}\tag{5.4}$$

$$P_T(\hat{s}) = \frac{3\pi\hat{m}_l}{2\sqrt{\hat{s}}} \lambda^{1/2}(1, \hat{s}, \hat{m}_s^2) \left[c_7^{\text{eff}} c_{10} (1 - \hat{m}_s^2) - 4 \text{Re} (c_7^{\text{eff}} c_9^{\text{eff}}) (1 + \hat{m}_s^2) \right]$$

$$-\frac{4}{\hat{s}} |c_7^{\text{eff}}|^2 (1 - \hat{m}_s^2)^2 + \text{Re} (c_9^{\text{eff}} c_{10}) (1 - \hat{m}_s^2) - |c_9^{\text{eff}}|^2 \hat{s} \Big] / \Delta , \quad (5.5)$$

$$P_N(\hat{s}) = \frac{3\pi \hat{m}_l}{2\Delta} \text{Im} (c_9^{\text{eff}*} c_{10}) \sqrt{\hat{s}} \lambda^{1/2}(1, \hat{s}, \hat{m}_s^2) \sqrt{1 - \frac{4\hat{m}_l^2}{\hat{s}}} . \quad (5.6)$$

The expression for P_L agrees with that obtained by Hewett [13], when we set $\hat{m}_s = 0$ in Eq. (5.4).

It should be noted that the polarization components P_L , P_T and P_N involve different quadratic functions of the effective couplings c_7^{eff} , c_9^{eff} and c_{10} , and therefore contain independent information. The component P_N is proportional to the absorptive part of the effective coupling c_9^{eff} , which is dominated by the charm-quark contribution (cf. Eq. (2.3)). It is obvious that the polarization is affected by any alteration in the relative magnitude and sign of c_7^{eff} , c_9^{eff} and c_{10} , and thus can serve as a probe of possible new interactions transcending the standard model.

The polarization components P_L , P_T and P_N are plotted in Figs. 2–5. In the case of the $\mu^+ \mu^-$ channel, the only significant component is P_L , which has a large negative value over most of the \hat{s} domain, with an average value $\langle P_L \rangle_\mu = -0.77$. By contrast, all three components are sizeable in the $\tau^+ \tau^-$ channel, with average values $\langle P_L \rangle_\tau = -0.37$, $\langle P_T \rangle_\tau = -0.63$, $\langle P_N \rangle_\tau = 0.03$ (0.02) for $\kappa_V = 2.35$ (1). Notice that the T -odd component P_N , though small, is considerably larger than the corresponding normal polarization of leptons in $K_L \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu^- \bar{\nu}$ or $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \mu^+ \mu^-$, which requires a final state Coulomb interaction of the lepton with the other charged particles, and is typically of order $\alpha(m_\mu/m_K) \sim 10^{-3}$ [21].

The inclusive branching ratios are predicted to be $\text{Br}(B \rightarrow X_s \mu^+ \mu^-) = 6.7 \times 10^{-6}$, $\text{Br}(B \rightarrow X_s \tau^+ \tau^-) = 2.5 \times 10^{-7}$. The lower rate of the $\tau^+ \tau^-$ channel may be offset by the fact that the decay of the τ acts as a self-analyser of the τ polarization. Assuming (as in Ref. [13]) a total of $5 \times 10^8 B\bar{B}$ decays, one can expect to observe ~ 100 identified $B \rightarrow X_s \tau^+ \tau^-$ events, permitting a test of the predicted polarizations $\langle P_L \rangle = -0.37$, and $\langle P_T \rangle = -0.63$ with good accuracy. We shall discuss in a more

detailed paper the dependence of the lepton polarization on the production angle θ , the spin correlation of the l^+l^- pair, the influence of nonperturbative effects (quark-binding corrections), as well as lepton-spin effects in exclusive channels.

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APPENDIX: INPUT PARAMETERS

$$\begin{aligned}
 m_b &= 4.8 \text{ GeV}, \quad m_c = 1.4 \text{ GeV}, \quad m_s = 0.2 \text{ GeV}, \quad m_t = 176 \text{ GeV} , \\
 m_\mu &= 0.106 \text{ GeV}, \quad m_\tau = 1.777 \text{ GeV}, \quad M_W = 80.2 \text{ GeV}, \quad \mu = m_b , \\
 V_{tb} &= 1, \quad V_{ts}^* = -V_{cb}, \quad \text{Br}(B \rightarrow X_c l \bar{\nu}_l) = 10.4\% , \\
 \Lambda_{\text{QCD}} &= 225 \text{ MeV}, \quad \alpha = 1/129, \quad \sin^2 \theta_W = 0.23 \quad {}^3
 \end{aligned} \tag{A1}$$

$$R_{\text{cont}}^{c\bar{c}}(\hat{s}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } 0 \leq \hat{s} \leq 0.60 , \\ -6.80 + 11.33\hat{s} & \text{for } 0.60 \leq \hat{s} \leq 0.69 , \\ 1.02 & \text{for } 0.69 \leq \hat{s} \leq 1 . \end{cases} \tag{A2}$$

³We use $\alpha_s(\mu)$ that is given by the formula (4.12) of Ref. [4].

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FIGURE CAPTIONS

Figure 1 The imaginary part $\text{Im } g(\hat{m}_c, \hat{s})$ as a function of the invariant mass of the lepton pair. The dashed line represents the theoretical result, neglecting long-distance effects, and the solid curve shows the imaginary part using $R_{\text{had}}^{c\bar{c}}(\hat{s})$, as described in the text.

Figure 2 The longitudinal polarization P_L for the μ^- including the $c\bar{c}$ resonances ($\kappa_V = 2.35$).

Figure 3 The longitudinal polarization P_L for the tau lepton including $c\bar{c}$ resonances.

Figure 4 The transverse polarization P_T (in the decay plane) of the τ^- for $\hat{s} \geq 4\hat{m}_\tau^2$.

Figure 5 The normal polarization P_N , i.e. normal to the decay plane, in the $\tau^+\tau^-$ channel including $c\bar{c}$ intermediate states. The solid line corresponds to $\kappa_V = 2.35$, the dashed one is $\kappa_V = 1$.

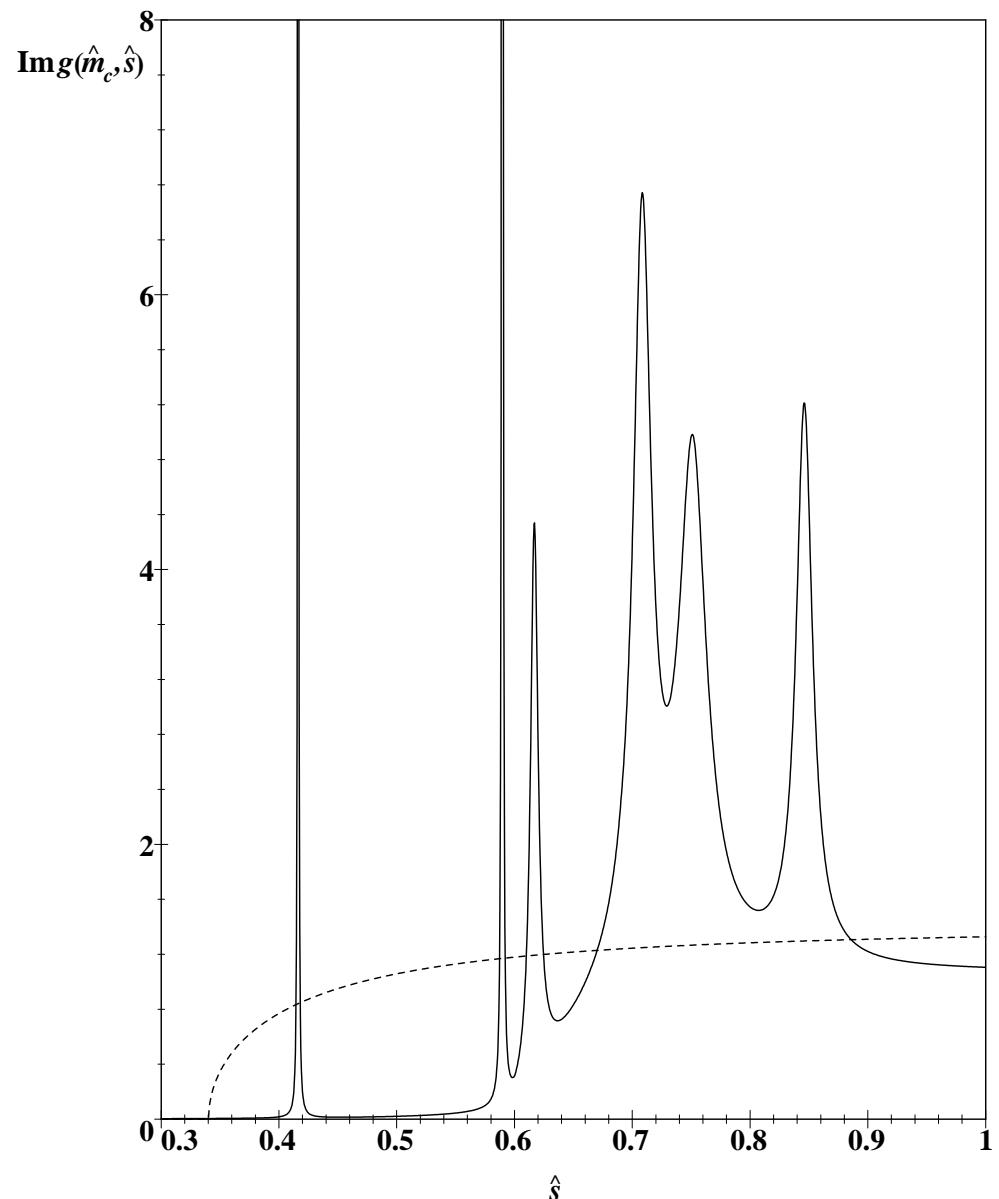


FIG. 1:

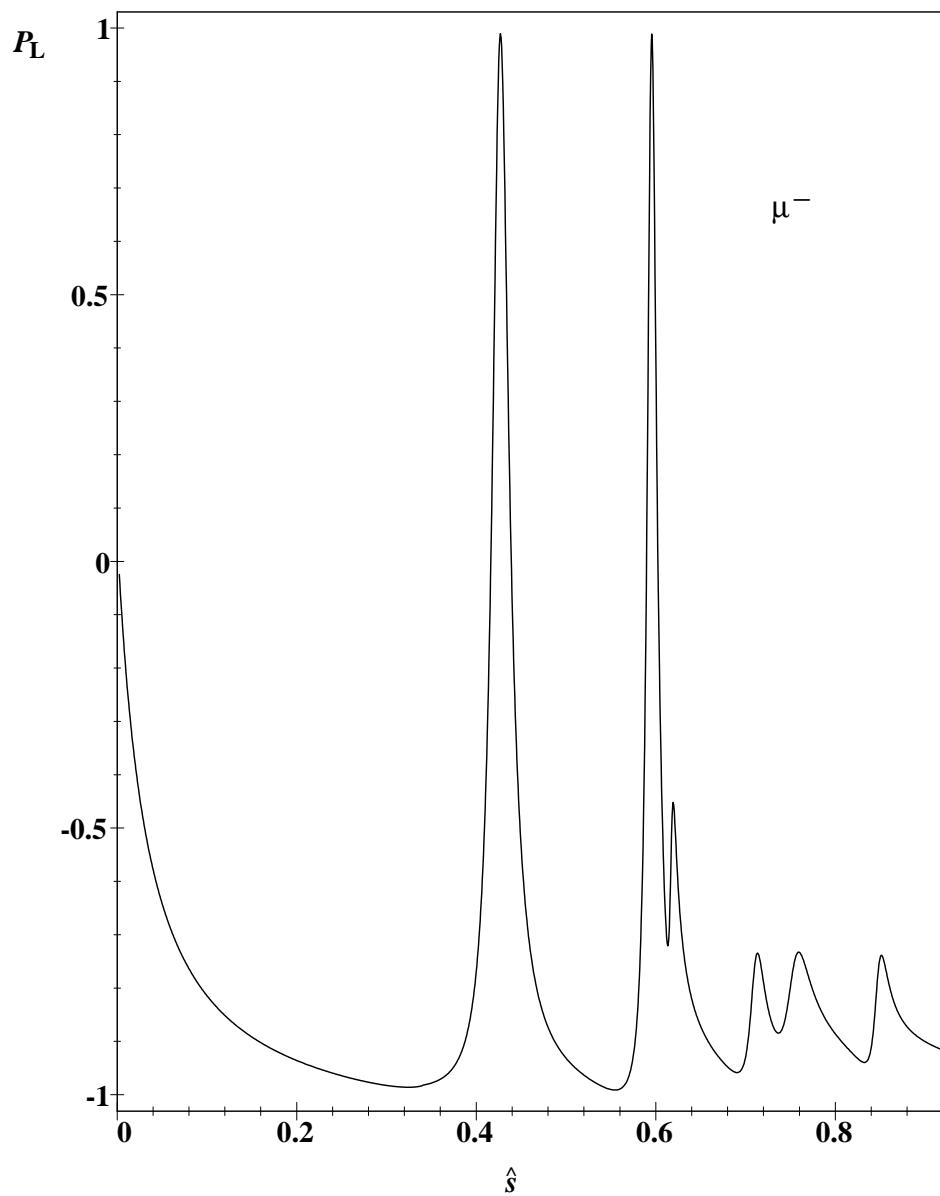


FIG. 2:

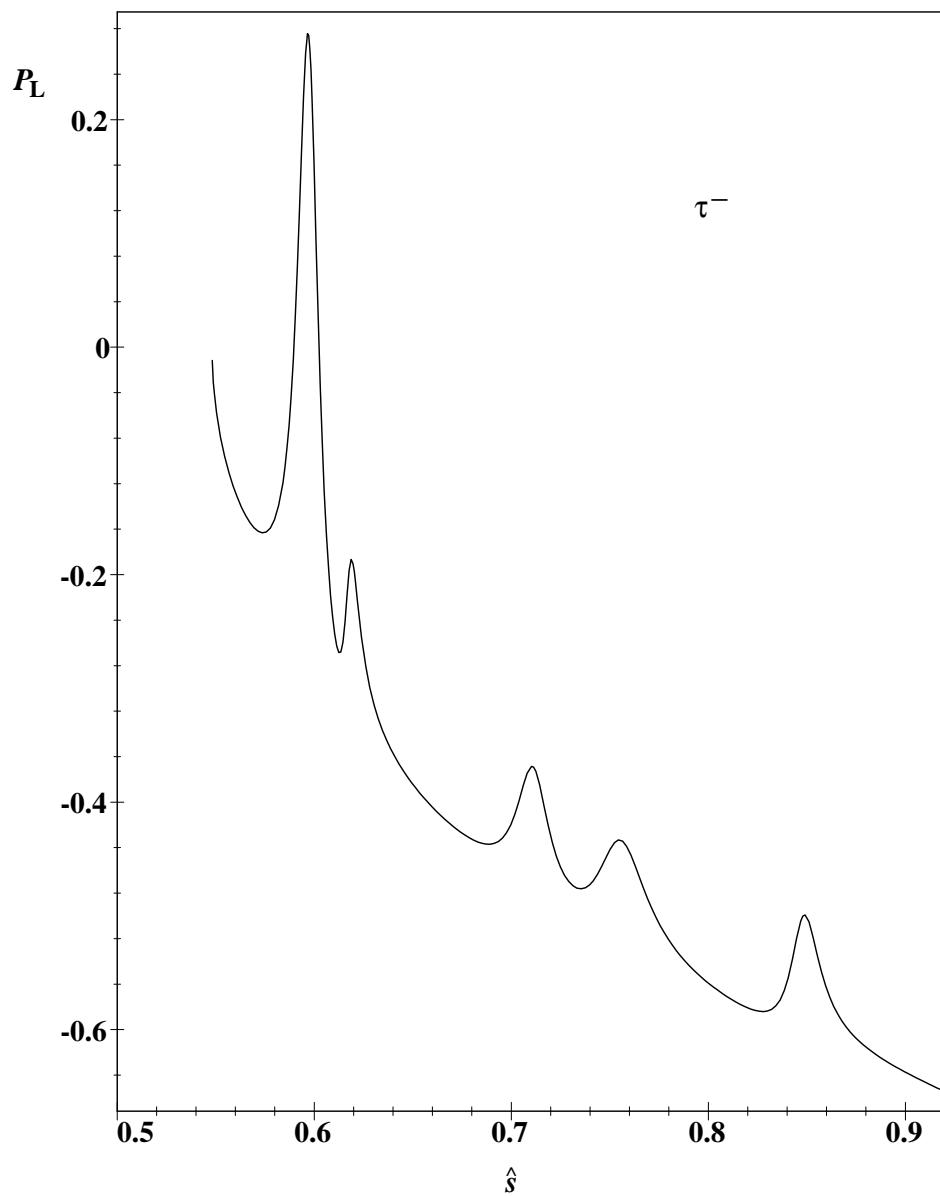


FIG. 3:

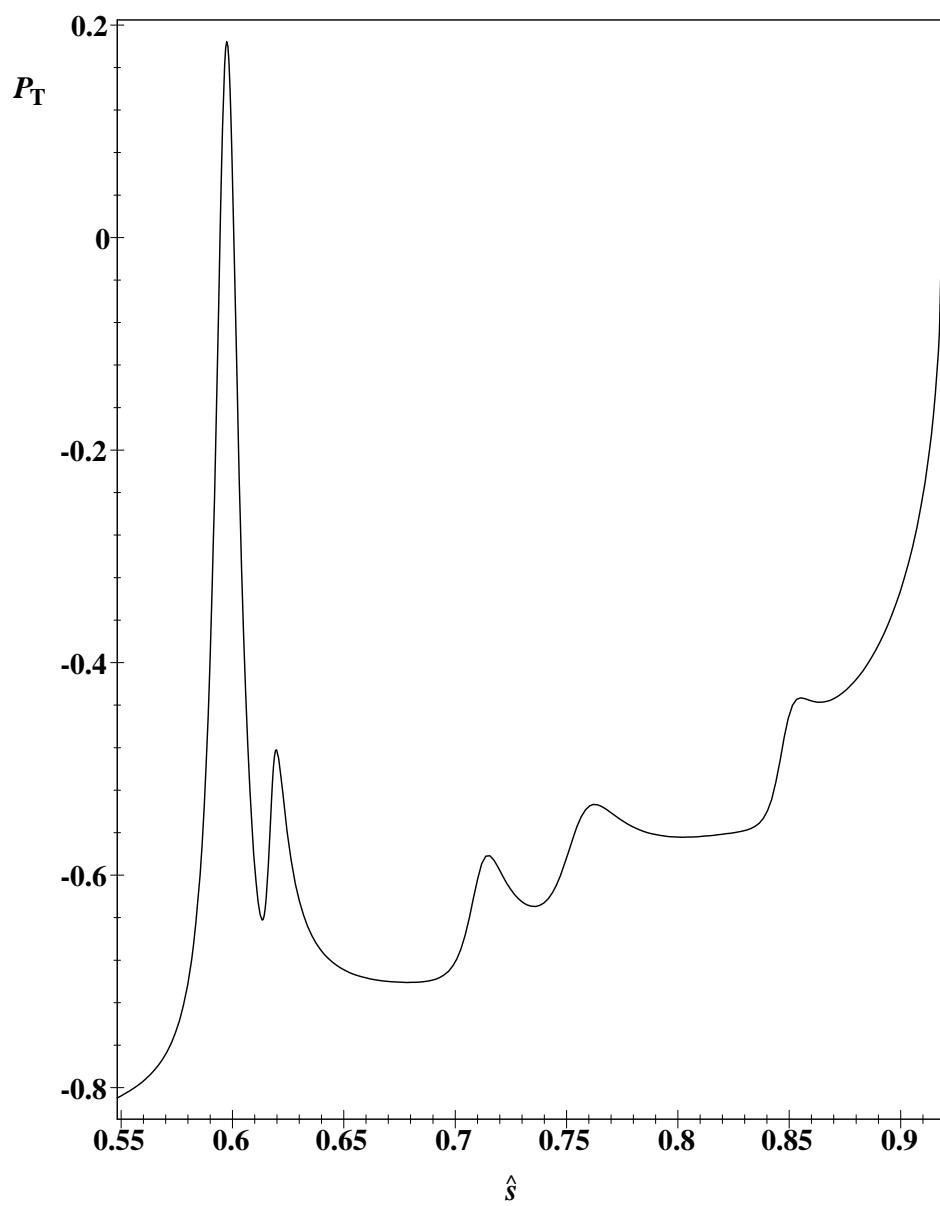


FIG. 4:

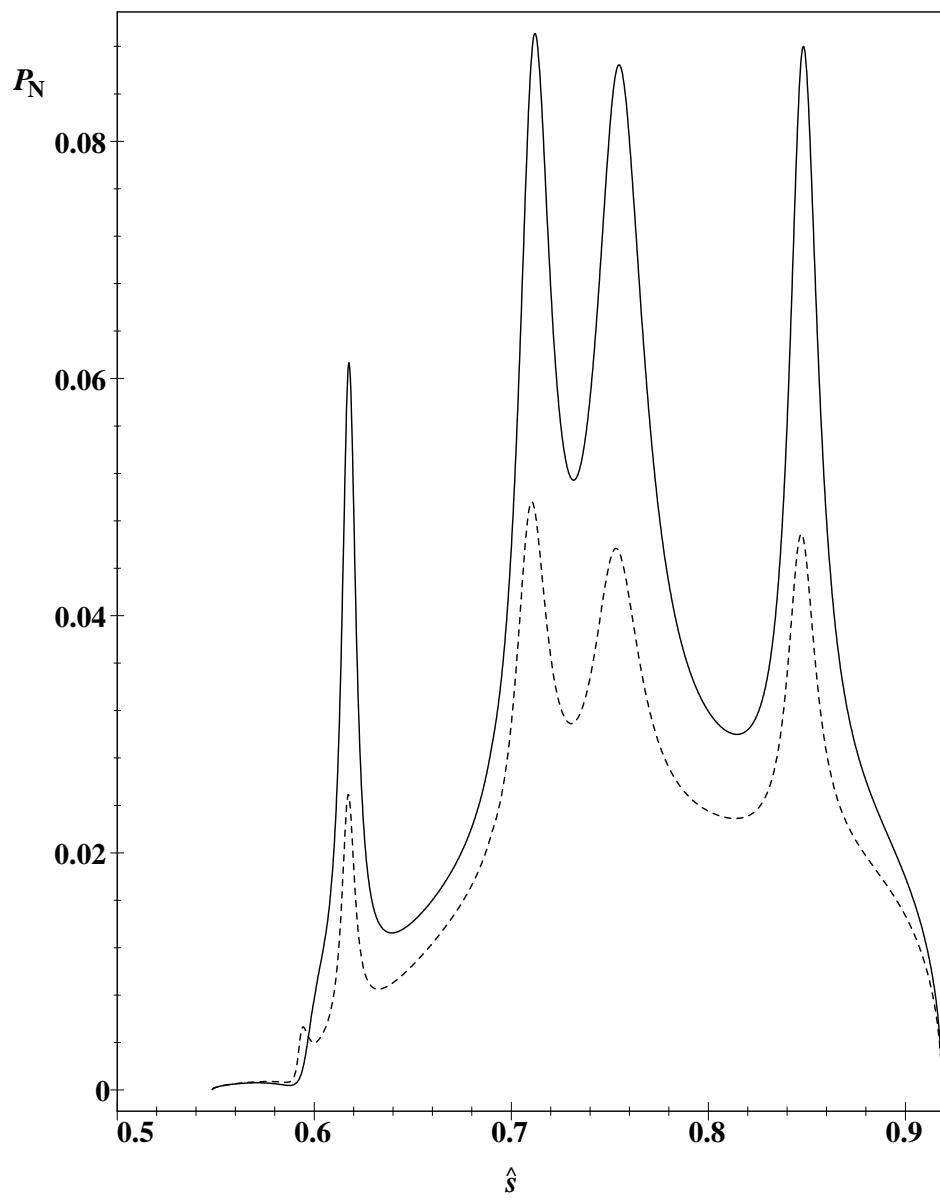


FIG. 5: